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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Office of Marketing Services

Fresh Products Standardization and Inspection Service

RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE AVERAGE DIAMETER OF CALIFORNIA ORANGES AND GRAPEFRUIT IN STANDARD CONTAINERS

The California orange crop this season is running heavy to small sizes. Therefore inspectors in the markets may be called upon to inspect lots for size.

The California Agricultural Code requires containers of oranges and grapefruit, which are packed and lidded, to be marked with the number and average diameter of the fruit in the container. Also when containers of citrus fruits are marked with the average diameter of the fruit in the container, the actual average diameter of such fruits must conform with the markings on the container.

In addition to the above marking requirements, the California Agricultural Code requires grapefruit and oranges to be uniform in size. The term "uniform in size" means that not more than 5 percent, by count, of the fruits in any one container may be more than 15 percent larger or smaller in diameter than the average diameter of the fruit in the container as marked on the outside end thereof, and that none thereof may be more than 20 percent larger or smaller in diameter than such average diameter as so marked.

In addition to the above provisions of the Agricultural Code, the California Department of Agriculture has established rules and regulations to the effect that the size of oranges and grapefruit to be marked on lidded standard containers as expressed in terms of average diameter shall be as follows:

For Oranges			For Grapefruit		
Size	Average Diameter in inches	Equivalent in inches and sixteenths	Size	Average diameter in inches	Equivalent in inches and sixteenths
48	4.370	4- 6/16	36	4.920	4-15/16
64	3.970	4	40	4.750	4-12/16
80	3.680	3-11/16	44	4.610	4-10/16
100	3.420	3- 7/16	48	4.470	4- 7/16
126	3.170	3- 3/16	54	4.270	4- 4/16
150	3.000	3	64	4.030	4
176	2.840	2-13/16	70	3.910	3-15/16
200	2.720	2-12/16	80	3.740	3-12/16
220	2.625	2-10/16	100	3.480	3- 8/16
252	2.500	2- 8/16	126	3.190	3- 3/16
288	2.375	2- 6/16	150	3.000	3
344	2.250	2- 4/16	176	2.840	2-13/16
392	2.150	2- 2/16			
420	2.070	2- 1/16			
442	2.050	2- 1/16			
490	2.020	2			

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The standard containers as specified by the Agricultural Code are as follows:

1. Standard two-compartment orange or grapefruit box each compartment $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x 12".
 2. Standard one-compartment orange or grapefruit box - $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x 24".
 3. Standard two-compartment half orange or grapefruit box, each compartment $5\frac{3}{4}$ "x $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x 12".
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